

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. *(currently amended)* A printing device for printing sheet elements (2) that are serially fed to the printing device comprising:
at least two separate feed devices (3a, ..., 3f) for at least one liner strip (1) having the sheet elements (2) removably affixed thereto, wherein each feed device (3a, ..., 3f) comprises a separate peeling-off device (4a, ..., 4f) for peeling the sheet elements (2) from each of the at least one liner strip (1), and wherein each feed device (3a, ..., 3f) is associated with a print head (5a, ..., 5f) with a thermal slat (6a, ..., 6f) for printing each sheet element supported by a counterpressure surface (7a, ..., 7f); and
an application device (8) for removing each printed sheet element from the print head (5a, ..., 5f) and for applying each printed sheet element to a product,
characterised in that the counterpressure surface (7a, ..., 7f) forms part of the print head (5a, ..., 5f) so as to maintain a fixed relationship to said print head so that no relative movement between the counterpressure surface and the print head can occur and wherein the counterpressure surface and the thermal slat are configured to have a rigid association therebetween so as to stabilize the label-sheet element at a print-active surface of the thermal slat.
2. *(canceled)*
3. *(previously presented)* The printing device according to claim 1,
characterised in that the feed devices (3a, ..., 3f) are arranged along a longitudinal path.

4. *(previously presented)* The printing device according to claim 1,
characterised in that the feed devices (3a, ..., 3f) are arranged along a path in the shape of a graduated circle.
5. *(currently amended)* The printing device according to claim 4,
characterised in that the application device (8) is arranged so as to be centered within the path in the shape of ~~a~~the graduated circle.
6. *(previously presented)* The printing device according to claim 9,
characterised in that the feed devices (3a, ..., 3c) are arranged vertically, one on top of the other.
7. *(previously presented)* The printing device according to claim 6,
characterised in that the application device (8) is embodied as a stamp that can be moved in a vertical direction.
8. *(previously presented)* The printing device according to claim 3,
characterised in that the application device (8) is a stamp that can be moved in a direction that is perpendicular to the longitudinal path.
9. *(previously presented)* The printing device according to claim 1,
characterised in that a single print head (5) is associated with the feed devices (3a, ..., 3c), of which there are several, and in that association of the print head with the respective feed device (3a, ..., 3f) takes place via an adjustment device (9).
10. *(original)* The printing device according to claim 9,
characterised in that the application device (8) is coupled to the adjustment device (9).

11. *(previously presented)* The printing device according to claim 9,
characterised in that the application device (8) and the adjustment device (9)
can each be moved independently from each other along a single axis.
12. *(previously presented)* The printing device according to claim 9,
characterised in that an additional application device removes the labels from
the feed devices (3a, ..., 3f) and feeds them to the print head (5).
13. *(previously presented)* The printing device according to claim 1,
characterised in that the application device is operated pneumatically,
hydraulically or electrically.
14. *(previously presented)* The printing device according to claim 1,
characterised in that the application device can be moved along multiple axes
or in a rotary manner.